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ESSAYS. By George John Romanes, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., Hon. Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. Edited by C. Lloyd Morgan, Principal of University College, Bristol. London, New York, and Bombay: Longmans, Green & Co. 1897.

Of the ten essays which together form this book, eight are popular expositions of natural science. Two alone ("What is the Object of Life?" and "Recreation") concern this JOURNAL. There is so often occasion of regret when teachers of natural science make excursions into the domain of ethics, that it is pleasant to be able to say what common sense and sound moral instinct characterize these two essays. The moral philosophy of Mr. Romanes (so far as he can be said to have had one) is utilitarian, but nothing could be much better or less distinctive of any school than his conclusion in the essay, "What is the Object of Life?" "But if it is thus true," he says, "that love and thought, conscience and wonder, are the faculties most distinctive of man, it appears to me that we have an objective verification of the conclusion previously reached by subjective analysis—viz., that the object of our human life must be that of exercising these our distinctively human faculties; and that the better each one of us can succeed in doing this, the more fully is he living the life which is most distinctively the life of a man." The essay on "Recreation" is not only full of an enlightened common sense, but presents a noble ideal both of work and of play. "By recreation I mean only that which with the least expenditure of time renders the exhausted energies most fitted to resume their work; . . . recreation is necessary not only for maintaining our powers of work so far as these are dependent on our vitality, but also for maintaining our happiness so far as this is dependent on our health."

MARY GILLILAND HUSBAND.

LONDON.

VOICES OF DOUBT AND TRUST. Selected by Volney Streamer. New York: Brentano's, 1897.

The purpose of this little book is one to be highly commended. It aims to give a candid expression of the soul's search for knowledge of its origin and destiny and its relation to the universe or God. It would bring together the voices of doubt and trust, and let each speak for itself. The inclination of the editor's own opinion is suggested by the arrangement of his material. First